

Message Text

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P 020039Z MAR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 045436

FOR MATLOCK FROM GARRISON

E.O. 11652: GDS

AGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. THE SOVIET EMBASSY WORKING LEVEL PERIODICALLY RAISES WITH US THE "IMPOSSIBLE" PARKING SITUATION OF THE SOVIET EMBASSY. WE RECALL THAT AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PAID A FEW THOUSAND DOLLARS IN 1974 FOR THE PARKING LOT IN BACK OF THE COMMERCIAL SECTION - COULD YOU PROVIDE US THE EXACT AMOUNT? ALSO, DO YOU STILL PAY A RENTAL FEE OR WAS IT A ONE-TIME EXPENSE? FINALLY, COULD YOU GIVE US AN ESTIMATE OF HOW MANY CARS THE EMBASSY AND ITS PERSONNEL OPERATE IN MOSCOW - COUNTING BOTH LIMOUSINES AND PRIVATE CARS? -

2. TO ILLUSTRATE THE INTEREST HERE, OUR GUIDANCE TO YOU ON THE FAYN ARREST WAS APPROVED AT THE HIGH LEVEL HERE.

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3. YULI IS LEAVING MONDAY FOR MOSCOW. WILL BE KOVALEV'S DEPUTY IN POLICY PLANNING, RANK OF AMBASSADOR. SOUNDS LIKE BEING KICKED UPSTAIRS; SOME OF HIS COMMENTS GIVE IMPRESSION HE IS ACCUSED OF BEING TOO SOFT ON US. FOR PRESENT, HE WILL BE REPLACED BY VASEV; BESSMERTNYKH BEING MOVED UP AS MINISTER COUNSELOR AND NUMBER THREE.

4. GEORGIY MARKOVICH'S PROTEST WAS STRONG STUFF. WILL BE
LOOKING FOR YOUR COMMENTS. CONFIDENCE IS HIGH DOWN THE
AVENUE THAT ALL THIS CAN BE MANAGED. BUKOVSKY MEETING
TODAY ABOUT AS EXPECTED.

5. INR ASKS IF DARYL JOHNSON CAN BE TEMPTED TO JOIN THEM
AND IF BILL BROWN WOULD MAKE THE PITCH TO HIM.
VANCE

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NNN

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